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BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NICOSIA 05548

DEPARTMENT FOR DS/OP/EUR; DS/TAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AT FBIS FACILITY - NICOSIA

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: THE PAN CYPRIAN FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS (POGO), A SUB-GROUP OF THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTY (AKEL), STAGED A DEMONSTRATION AT THE FBIS FACILITY IN NICOSIA ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23. APPROXIMATELY 1000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, TOOK PART. THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS AND POLICE COVERAGE WAS EXCELLENT. SPEAKERS INCLUDED THE BULGARIAN PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SOLIDARITY FOR CYPRUS (SIC) AND THE COMMUNIST MAYOR OF THE CYPRIOT TOWN OF LAKATAMIA. THE ANNOUNCED PURPOSE OF THE DEMONSTRATION WAS TO DEMAND THE ABOLITION OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES AND "SPY STATIONS"

3. A DEMONSTRATION WAS HELD AT THE NICOSIA FBIS FACILITY ON SUNDAY, 23 OCTOBER AT 9:30AM. IT WAS ORGANIZED BY THE PAN CYPRIAN FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS (POGO), WHICH IS A SUB-GROUP OF THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTY AKEL. LEAFLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT NICOSIA DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK. THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER HARAVGHI GAVE THE DEMONSTRATION PROMINENT COVERAGE BEFORE AND AFTER THE EVENT. RSO COORDINATED WITH LOCAL POLICE PRIOR TO THE EVENT. POLICE COVERAGE WAS EXCELLENT. THE LOCAL MMAD UNIT (CYPRUS' VERSION OF A SWAT TEAM OR IMMEDIATE ACTION UNIT) WAS PRESENT AS WELL AS 25 MALE AND FEMALE UNIFORMED OFFICERS. APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND DEMONSTRATORS, MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WERE PRESENT. THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS AND THE DEMONSTRATORS LEFT AROUND NOON.

4. THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF POGO, MRS. CHRISTINA DEMETRIADOU, INTRODUCED THE VARIOUS SPEAKERS. THE FBIS FACILITY WAS DESCRIBED BY ONE SPEAKER AS QUOTE AN INSTRUMENT OF THE CIA COLLECTING INFORMATION AGAINST THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE AND ALL THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES END QUOTE. MS. EUGENIA KYRANOVA, THE BULGARIAN PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SOLIDARITY FOR CYPRUS (SIC), PRAISED THE PEACE AND FREEDOM STRUGGLE OF THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE, EXPRESSED REGRET OVER THE CONTINUING TURKISH OCCUPATION OF NORTHERN CYPRUS, AND HOPED CYPRUS COULD BE FREE OF FOREIGN ARMIES AND BASES. THE COMMUNIST MAYOR OF LAKATAMIA, MR. VIOLARIS, STATED THAT WITH SUPPORT INTERNATIONALLY WE CAN QUOTE GET RID OF THE

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END QUOTE. EVERYONE DISPERSED PEACEFULLY AT NOON.

5. COMMENT: THE UNFORTUNATE ASPECT OF THIS DEMONSTRATION IS THE ATTENTION IT HAS DRAWN TO THE FBIS FACILITY. LOCAL GUARDS REPORT THAT SINCE THE PUBLICITY STARTED LAST WEEK, THERE HAS BEEN MORE INTEREST IN THE SITE, WITH MANY PEOPLE DRIVING BY TO VERIFY ITS LOCATION (FBIS IS LOCATED IN A RELATIVELY ISOLATED AREA). MOST PEOPLE PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT IT WAS A CYPRUS BROADCASTING RELAY STATION. FERRIN

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